(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the remedial steps taken in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH): (a) and (b) The Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh has expressed his reservations on Lakdawala Committee methodology to estimate the poverty for Andhra Pradesh and has suggested that the poverty ratio for Andhra Pradesh should be re-estimated under Lakdawla method by eliminating the price depressing effect of the State Government sponsored food subsidy programme.

(c) The implication of the suggestion on estimates of poverty for Andhra Pradesh is being studied.

Public housing assistance in Gujarat

3128. SHRI AHMED PATEL: Will the Minister of PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the provision of Public Housing Assistance to all shelterless poor families is one of the basic minimum services;

(b) whether Government have prepared any action plan to implement this provision in Gujarat;

(c) is so, the details thereof;

(d) whether any Plan allocation for the purpose has been made; and

(e) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The major Centrally Sponsored Scheme for housing being implemented by Government in the rural areas of the Country including the State of Gujarat is the Indira Awaas Yojana (IAY). The scheme is being implemented on an 80:20 cost sharing ration between the Centre and States. Under the scheme houses are provided free of cost to members of Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes, freed bonded labourers in rural areas and also to non-SC/ST rural poor below the poverty line subject to the condition that expenditure on non-SC/ST rural poor should not exceed 40% of the total allocation made under IAY.

(d) and (e) The plan allocations made under IAY for the State of Gujarat during the Eighth Plan (1992-93 to 1996-97) is given below:

(Rs. Lakh)

Year	Allocation under IAY to the State of Gujarat (Centre+State)
1992-93	910.51
1993-94	903.75
1994-95	1363.54
1995-96	4312.61
1996-97	4069.63

Allocation and utilisation of funds from MPLAD

3129. DR. GOPALRAO VITHALRAO PATIL: Will the Minister of PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state:

(a) the amount allocated to MPs uptill now under MPLAD Scheme;

(b) the amount utilised uptill now;

(c) the major causes of non-utilisation of funds; and

(d) the steps Government proposes to take to improve utilisation of funds?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH): (a) An aggregate amount of Rs.2349.80 crores has been released uptill now.

(b) As per information received from most of the Collectors, upto 19.3.1997, an amount of Rs.1571.75 crores has been utilised.

(c) The major causes of non-utilisation of funds during the previous years were:

(i) Time taken in release of funds in the earlier years;